

Remarks

Claims 1-23 are pending.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,133,874 (“Krasner”). The Examiner states:

Krasner discloses a method and apparatus for acquiring satellite positioning system signals. According to Krasner, an acquisition dwell on a plurality of cells within a time/frequency uncertainty range is performed to detect a set of cells having the largest correlation peaks; b an initial verification dwell on the set of acquired cells by comparing the peak of each cell to a threshold and retaining those cells having a peak at least as great as the threshold. According further to Krasner, there is provided performing an acquisition dwell on another plurality of cells within the time/frequency uncertainty range to detect another set of cells having the largest correlation peaks; performing a subsequent verification dwell on the retained cells and an initial verification dwell on the set of detected cells by comparing the peak of each cell to the threshold and retaining those cells having a peak at least as great as the threshold. See figures 3, 4 and 9-10. See also description at columns 10-15. Krasner also discloses a system and method for tracking (i.e., monitoring) the location or position of an object using signals transmitted by GPS satellites.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner’s rejection. As used in Applicants’ Specification and Applicants’ claims, the term “cell” describes a time-frequency point in the time-frequency uncertainty domain searched during a GPS signal acquisition. In other words, the term “cell” is used to refer to data used in GPS signal processing. See, generally, for example, Applicants’ Specification, at page 1, lines 15-25. Specifically, for example, Applicant’s Specification, at page 6, lines 25-28, uses the term “cell” in the context of “a GPS receiver architecture having 511 correlators and a 64-tap FFT.” The 64-tap 511 correlators are described to have “the capability to simultaneously search 32,704 cells n the time-frequency uncertainty domain.” Thus, one skilled in the art would not confuse these “cells” with the “cells” discussed in Krasner, which are each “a geographical region or location” in a cell based communication system, “defined to be within a cellular service area.” (See, Krasner, at col. 10, lines 4-16, on which the Examiner based his rejection.)

Applicants' cells and Krasner's cells are therefore entirely different concepts. Further, contrary to the Examiner's assertion, Krasner's Figs. 3-4 and 9-10 or Krasner's cols. 10-15, do not disclose or suggest "an acquisition dwell on a plurality of cells within a time/frequency uncertainty range ... to detect a set of cells having the largest correlation peaks." Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Krasner's Figure 3, 4, 9 and 10, and cols. 10-15 do not disclose or suggest Applicants' Claims 1-23, each reciting performing an acquisition dwell on "a plurality of cells with a time/frequency uncertainty range." Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1-23 are each allowable over Krasner.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-12 and 14-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,864,981 ("Wallstedt"). The Examiner states:

Wallstedt et al discloses an adaptive neighbor cell list, an acquisition dwell on a plurality of cells within a time/frequency uncertainty range is performed to detect a set of cells having the largest correlation peaks (abstract) and an initial verification dwell on the set of acquired cells by comparing the peak of each cell to a threshold and retaining those cells having a peak at least as great as the threshold (abstract). Wallstedt et al further discloses performing an acquisition dwell on another plurality of cells within the time/frequency uncertainty range to detect another set of cells having the largest correlation peaks (figures 1-5) and performing a subsequent verification dwell on the retained cells and an initial verification dwell on the set of detected cells by comparing the peak of each cell to the threshold and retaining those cells having a peak at least as great as the threshold (figures 8-9). See also, columns 4, 9-10 and 12-13.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection. Like Krasner, Wallstedt uses the term "cell" to denote a geographical service area within a cellular communication system. At Wallstedt's col. 1, lines 24-29, Wallstedt states:

In a typical mobile telecommunication system each base station of the system controls communications within a certain geographical coverage area ideally represented by a hexagonal shape termed a cell, and a mobile station which is located within a particular cell communicates with the base station controlling that cell.

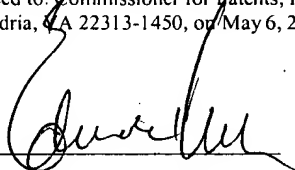
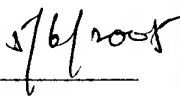
Therefore, as in Krasner, the term “cell” in Wallstedt does not relate to “plurality of cells within a time/frequency uncertainty range,” as recited in each of Applicants’ Claims 1-12 and 14-22. Accordingly, Claims 1-12 and 14-22 are neither disclosed nor suggested by Wallstedt, and thus are each allowable over Wallstedt.

The Examiner rejected Claims 13 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wallstedt, in view of Krasner. The Examiner states:

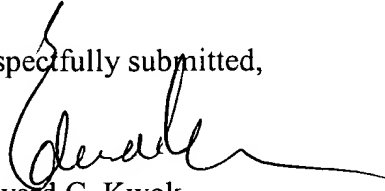
Wallstedt et al does not particularly teach tracking the location of an object using signals transmitted by GPS satellites in combination with the signal acquisition device. Krasner, on the other hand, discloses a method and apparatus for acquiring satellite positioning system (GPS) signals, wherein the location/position of an object is being tracked using signals transmitted by GPS signals. Thus, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine the systems of Wallstedt et al and Krasner to track the position of the object because it would provide an accurate and efficient tracking system for monitoring the location of the object.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner’s rejection. For the reason stated above with respect to the Examiner’s rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), Claims 13 and 23 are neither disclosed nor suggested by the combined teachings of Wallstedt and Krasner, and thus are allowable over Wallstedt and Krasner.

Therefore, all pending claims (i.e., Claims 1-23) are believed allowable over Wallstedt and Krasner. Reconsideration and their allowance is therefore requested. If the Examiner has any question regarding the above, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned Attorney for Applicant at (408)-392-9250.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 6, 2005.	
	
Attorney for Applicant(s)	Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,


Edward C. Kwok
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 33,938

Law Offices of
MacPherson Kwok Chen & Heid LLP
1762 Technology Drive, Suite 226
San Jose, CA 95110
Tel: (408) 392-9250
Fax: (408) 392-9262